

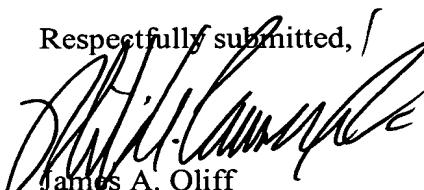
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-32 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification is amended and claims 19, 20, 27, and 28 are canceled.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18, 21-26, and 29-32 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:PAC/nxy

Date: January 24, 2005

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